

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the interview on February 26, 2004. The Examiner's courtesy and consideration of Applicant's questions and comments at the interview are sincerely appreciated.

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 7 and 8 have been added.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chun (Patent No. 5,522,295) in view of Bollaert (Patent No. 1,704,962). Claim 1 has been amended. For the following reasons the examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

None of the references disclose or suggest "a notch extending through the upper turret used in exchanging one of the plurality of lower metal molds" as recited in amended claim 1. Bollaert is cited as disclosing a notch in the upper turret.

Bollaert discloses a notch 68 on the punch bore 30 to provide an sight opening through which the operator may see the point of the punch when aligning the same upon the material to be punched (col. 5, lines 4-10). The Bollaert notch is only in a lower front portion of the tool holder section 28 (Figs. 1-3). Since the Bollaert notch 68 is only in the lower front portion of the tool holder section, the Bollaert notch 68 does not extend through the upper turret and cannot be used in exchanging a lower metal mold. Therefore, Bollaert does not disclose or suggest a notch extending through the upper turret used in exchanging one of the lower metal molds. Thus, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.


Appl. No. 10/028,196
Amdt. Dated March 15, 2004
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If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our
Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34245.

Respectfully submitted,

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